

According to Cupo, reshuffling is a process of moving symbols from information sources around to different sub-carriers so they don't remain in bad sub-carriers for too long. This is different from a process of combining sub-carriers which constructively adds sub-carriers carrying the same information, as described and claimed in the present application.

The Office Action also asserts that Cupo's system is "receiving [] an information bearing OFDM signal [] at a receiver [], where the information bearing OFDM signal [] is carried by each sub-carrier of a set of subcarriers [] allocated to the receiver[]." (Citations omitted). This assertion is mistaken. Each sub-carrier in Cupo's system carries a different OFDM symbol:

In OFDM, different bits are placed in each of the available OFDM subcarriers 1 to N ... [col. 1, lines 30-31].

This method comprises receiving a shuffled input data stream transmitted over a plurality of sub-carriers using OFDM. [col. 3, lines 31-33]

Note that in Cupo's system a *data stream* is transmitted over a plurality of sub-carriers. In contrast, however, the present invention as claimed in Claim 1 puts the same information into more than one sub-carrier so that the information can be received and constructively recombined. A person cannot constructively combine sub-carriers as provided by Cupo where there is different information on each sub-carrier.

As to Claim 2, the Office Action further states that Cupo anticipates sampling, decimating, and accumulating the OFDM signal to recover the signal. Again, after careful review and consideration of the Cupo patent, applicant cannot find where Cupo mentions sampling, decimating, or accumulating an OFDM signal. The text that the Examiner refers to (col. 2, lines 14-26, and col. 3 lines 33-34) describes assigning different services to different sub-carrier groups. This disclosure by Cupo has nothing to do with sampling, decimating, or accumulating a signal. The links that the Examiner uses and claims to be "inherent in OFDM"